CHAPTER 494

(House Bill 135)

AN ACT concerning

Public Service Commission <u>- Orders</u> and Office of the People's Counsel Fund <u>- Public Utility Regulation Fund and Filing Fees</u>

FOR the purpose of establishing the Public Service Commission and Office of the People's Counsel Fund; requiring the Fund to be administered by the Commission; providing that the Fund is a nonlapsing fund; requiring the Treasurer to hold and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; providing that the Fund consist of assessments paid by public service companies; requiring the People's Counsel to estimate certain costs at a certain time; requiring the Treasurer to invest the Fund in the same manner as other State funds: requiring that investments earnings be retained to the credit of the Fund: requiring expenditures from the Fund be made in accordance with the State budget; authorizing the Fund to receive funds from any other source; requiring that moneys in the Fund be used to fund the Commission and the Office of the People's Counsel; repealing the requirement that costs and expenses of the Commission and Office of the People's Counsel be paid from the State Treasury: repealing the requirement that the State Treasury be reimbursed from the assessments paid by public service companies; requiring public service companies to make payment to the Public Service Commission and Office of the People's Counsel Fund; and generally relating to the Public Service Commission and Office of the People's Counsel Fund a Public Utility Regulation Fund; providing for the purpose and administration of the Fund; specifying the sources of the Fund; requiring the Public Service Commission to pay certain moneys to the General Fund of the State; providing that the Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the Commission to pay certain moneys collected from certain assessments into the Fund; specifying that the estimate used to determine the assessment shall include certain expenses and costs of the Office of People's Counsel; providing that the Commission may charge reasonable and nondiscriminatory fees for the filing of certain documents with the Commission; providing for the consideration of certain expenses in determining the amount of a certain fee; requiring the Commission to waive certain fees for units of State government; allowing the Commission to waive certain fees if the waiver is in the public interest; specifying that a document for which a filing fee is required is not considered filed until the fee has been paid; providing that under certain circumstances, the Commission may implement certain provisions of law by either order or regulation as the Commission deems necessary and proper; and generally relating to the Public Utility Regulation Fund and, Commission filing fees, and Public Service Commission orders.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Public Utility Companies Section 2-110 and 3-113